

Havre Area JSEC Minutes for 12/09/09

Attending: Carol Lamey - Havre Job Service Manager, Bev Hagen – Havre Job Service, Cathy Jamruszka – MSU Northern Agriculture Research Center, Sylvia Murray – Murrays' Genealogy Services, Garnet Bergren – Havre Day Activity Center, Kathy Jaynes, MSU Northern, Delores Plumage, Blaine County Commissioner.

What's New at Job Service

1. Carol informed everyone that Richard Hanley has been hired for a one-year-temporary position. He relocated from Indiana to accept this position. He grew up in Butte & wanted to move back into this state. He has been on staff since November. Pam Hillery was hired also. She began this week & is working half time through the month of December because of previous commitments and will go to full time in January. She will probably only work until June.
2. We will be re-doing some of our outreach & work duties since we have more staff at this time.
3. Scott is currently at Tribal Relations training in Helena (today).
4. Carol also reported on a couple of new grants she is currently getting information on:
 - Incumbent work grant will be available statewide to employers for up to \$2,000/job
 - SESP (State Energy Sector Partnership) is a regional grant available to train incumbent or new workers for specific energy areas (i.e. Ground Source Heating)She will know more on both of these grants around January 1, 2010 & will keep JSEC updated at our next meeting.
5. New 5-in-1 employment posters will be here next week.

Treasurer's Report

1. Sylvia reported that the balance in checking is \$1,540.75.
2. Balance in savings is \$25.05.

Sub Committee Reports

1. Bev reported on WorkSafeMT
Carl Kochman, from State Fund, is also the Chair of the new WorkSafeMT campaign. Bev emailed him to get information about their campaign. Montana has a history of poor workplace safety. Compared to surrounding states and the nation, we injure more workers. We lose more work time to injuries. And we keep injured workers off the job too long. The costs, both financial and human, are debilitating. WorkSafeMT Foundation is a nonprofit partnership that includes state and federal agencies, private business, labor unions, organizations and Montana citizens. Their goal is to raise awareness of Montana's poor safety performance and engage employers and employees in changing it.
 - Carl has scheduled to do two presentations sponsored by JSEC on January 19, 2010. Bev will contact Northern Montana Hospital & see if we can use conference rooms there to do the workshop. If not there, then we will check with Havre Holiday Village Mall for their conference room or Bear Paw Development. Those members in attendance agreed to charge \$10 per business. That worked well for the last seminar. Bev will do the follow up & will email a flyer to businesses on our JSEC email lists.
2. Bev reported on the monthly emails she is mailing to the employer distribution lists. For November she sent one regarding the new GINA law and the supplement available for the 5-in-1-employment poster until new posters are available. For December she will email the flyer about the upcoming WorkSafeMT seminar. For January she will remind employers to pick up new 5-in-1 posters if we haven't already gotten one to them.

Work Force Comments, Concerns & Open Forum

1. Northern Ag Research Center
 - a. Cathy said they are currently interviewing/making reference calls for one of the Research Assistant positions and are getting close to selecting for interviews for the other Research Assistant position.
 - b. She said they are battling heat problems right now but are looking forward to getting Ground Source Heat with their remodeling.
2. Blaine County Commission
 - a. Delores Plumage asked the JSEC members present if training such as the “State Tribal Relations” training that Scott attended was making a difference. She pointed out that she gets agendas to lots of these and wants to know if we think real issues are being addressed and needs are being met or are the issues being skirted. She, as a Blaine County Commissioner, gets lots of calls about various topics and she really feels we need to address relationships & working together. She asked if Job Service knew about the summit on jobs held at Rocky Boy (& on the front page of the Havre Daily News). She feels communication is lacking & that doesn’t contribute to positive relationship building.
 - b. Delores also asked the group about the North Central MT Transit system buses & their free access. Consensus of the whole group was positive & they felt it was a good thing. Discussion took place as to how long it would/should remain a free service.
 - c. Delores asked for input from those present regarding the local economy and whether we thought people were shopping at home or travelling to larger places to shop. Most felt people were shopping at home for the most part.
 - d. She also wanted input regarding services to those who would be running out of unemployment. The local food banks are stretched beyond capacity with more people needing help.
3. MSU Northern
 - a. Kathy Jaynes shared that Provost Joe Callahan is resigning and the search will begin for a new Provost soon.
 - b. The MSU Northern Foundation Director position is narrowing. They are interviewing right now.
 - c. The new Chancellor (Dr. Trocki) is working hard to increase the student population at MSUN.
 - d. There has been lots of controversy over keeping the pool at MSUN or making a wellness center instead. Dr. Trocki plans to stay the course & continue with the wellness center unless new information is presented.
4. Havre Day Activity Center
 - a. Garnet recently attended a Notary training & it was well worth the time. She highly recommended sending old & new Notary Public personnel to the training.
5. Murrays Mortuary Service/Murray Genealogy Services
 - a. Sylvia shared that her recent trip to BYU in Utah to speak on November 6-7 went beautifully! It really is quite an honor to be asked by peers & others in your profession to present information & it went well.
 - b. Sylvia suggested JSEC might make a donation somewhere to help out. Garnet made a motion to donate \$50-\$100 to somewhere that helps needy families. Discussion followed & Sylvia will find out if Town Pump is still matching donations made to Food Bank. Sylvia will research & find out where it will be used best. Garnet amended her motion to be \$200 & Carol seconded the motion. Sylvia will take care of it & report back to JSEC at next meeting.

Next meeting

JSEC – February 10, 2010 at 11 am